



The Rooks Report

many people...one community

August 26, 2013

Volume 1, Issue 6

Let's talk about it!

"First Saturday Talk," September 7, 2013 at the Emmanuel Baptist Church 10am—12pm.

What's On Your Mind?

- Please share with us any stories or items that you would like to have put into this newsletter.
- We want your comments about what we are doing for you here in the district. Please provide us your positive feedback and we will post them in this newsletter (see our comments section on page 11).



Shana M. Rooks,
Clayton County Commissioner—District 3

We all must do all we can to ensure that our communities rise up to meet our expectations. I am always challenging us to introspectively determine if we are doing our part. Fifty years ago, on August 28, 1963, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., delivered the famous "I Have a Dream" speech, on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. Dr. King admonished us that we should always march ahead and not turn back. In the spirit of Moving Clayton Forward let us take ownership of our abilities to make a difference in our individual communities.

To that extent, I have had the pleasure of meeting with residents regarding their concern for Independence Park and the growth and development of the park. Our Parks and Recreation Director Detrick Stanford and I have been in deep discussion about how to redevelop the park. We are therefore encouraging that a "Friends of Independence Park" committee be established to vet the needs and desires of the community. Please come out for our first Saturday meeting on Saturday, September 7, 2013, at Emmanuel Baptist Church to discuss Independence Park.

Yours In Service,

Shana M. Rooks, Esq.
Your Commissioner

In this issue:

Child Curfew Ordinance 2

Economic Development Strategy 5

Clayton County Water Authority 6

First Saturday Talk Location Change 11

Clayton County Child Curfew Ordinance (Sec. 62.11)

In an effort to keep the county drug free and the county's streets safe by reducing the numbers of crimes that are committed by and against children after the hour set out in this section for curfew, the board of commissioners finds that a child curfew ordinance is one initiative to protect children in Clayton County from being the victims, as well as perpetrators, of crime.



Accordingly, the Clayton County Board of Commissioners finds and declares that the purpose of this section is to reduce the number of crimes committed by and against children, and to safeguard the welfare of our children in areas in unincorporated Clayton County after the hour set out in this section for curfew; it, therefor, enacts a child curfew ordinance as hereinafter set forth in the best interest of the citizens of Clayton County.

Sec. 62-11.4. Curfew for persons 17 years of age or younger.

(a) It is unlawful for any child to loiter, to wander, to stroll, or to play in or upon any public place, street, highway, road, alley, park, playground or other public ground, establishment, public building, place of amusement, eating place, vacant lot, or any other place in unincorporated Clayton County unsupervised by an adult, parent, or guardian having the lawful authority to be at such places, between the hours of 11:00 o'clock, p.m., on every day and 6:00 o'clock, a.m., the following day, except, however, that on Fridays and Saturdays the effective hours are between midnight and 6:00 o'clock, a.m., the following day.

(b) It is unlawful for the parent, guardian, or other person having custody or control of any child to knowingly, or by insufficient control, to allow such minor to be in or upon any public place, or any other place listed in subsection (a) of this subsection in unincorporated Clayton County between the hours of 11:00 o'clock, p.m., on every day and 6:00 o'clock, a.m., the following day, except, however, that on Fridays and Saturdays the effective hours are between midnight and 6:00 o'clock, a.m., the following day, except as provided by subsection 62-11.5(d) of this section.

(c) It is unlawful for any owner, operator, or employee of an establishment to knowingly allow a child to be in or upon the premises of an establishment in unincorporated Clayton County the hours of 11:00 o'clock, p.m., on every day and 6:00 o'clock, a.m., the following day, except, however, that on Fridays and Saturdays the effective hours are between midnight and 6:00 o'clock, a.m., the following day, except as provided by subsection 62-11.5(d) of this section.

Sec. 62-11.5. Offenses.

(a) A child commits an offense, if he or she remains in any public place or on the premises of any establishment in unincorporated Clayton County during curfew hours.

(b) A parent or a guardian of a child commits an offense, if he or she knowingly permits, or by insufficient control allows, the child to remain in any public place or on the premises of any establishment in unincorporated Clayton County during curfew hours.

(c) An owner, operator, or employee of an establishment commits an offense, if he or she knowingly allows a child to remain in or upon the premises of any establishment in unincorporated Clayton County during curfew hours. It is a defense to prosecution under this section that the owner, operator, or employee of an establishment promptly notified the Clayton County Police Department that a child was present on the premises of the establishment during curfew hours and refused to leave.

(d) Exceptions. The provisions of this section shall not apply in the following instances:

(1) When a child is accompanied by his or her parent, guardian, or other adult having the lawful care

Clayton County Child Curfew Ordinance (Sec. 62.11) cont.

and custody of the child;

- (2) When the child is upon an emergency errand directed by his or her parent or guardian or other adult person having the lawful care and custody of such child, or if such child is seeking medical treatment;
- (3) When the child is returning directly home from a school activity, entertainment, recreational activity, or dance;
- (4) When the child is returning directly home from lawful employment that makes it necessary to be in the above referenced places during the prescribed period of time;
- (5) When the child is attending or traveling directly to or from an activity involving the exercise of first amendment rights of free speech, freedom of assembly, or free exercise of religion;
- (6) When the child is in a motor vehicle with parental consent for normal travel.
- (7) When the child is an emancipated minor.

Sec. 62-11.6. Penalties.

- (a) Upon the conviction of a violation of this section by an adult, parent, or guardian, or an owner, operator or employee of an establishment, there shall be a fine, not to exceed \$1,000.00, or imprisonment in the Clayton County jail for not more than six months, or both.
Except as may otherwise be provided, each violation of this section shall constitute a separate offense.
- (b) Adjudication of violations of this section by a child shall be made in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 15-11-1 et seq.

Sec. 62-11.7. Enforcement. Before taking any enforcement action under this section, a Clayton County Police Officer shall ask the apparent offender's age and the reason for being in the public place. Furthermore, the officer shall not issue a citation or make an arrest under this section unless the officer reasonably believes that an offense has occurred and that, based on any response and other circumstance, no exception listed in subsection (d) of section 62-11.5 is present. (Ord. No. 2005-85, §§ 1, 2, 7-19-05)



It is illegal under local and state law to place signs in the right-of-way of roads of un-incorporated Clayton. The signs will be removed and the offenders prosecuted. These signs pose a safety problem for drivers and pedestrians. Signs distract motorists, create blind spots, and present hazards for maintenance crews. The nails, screws, staples and tacks used to place signs on utility poles and for utility workers and harmful to trees. In addition to the safety issue, the signs detract from the appearance of our roadways making the County and our neighborhoods look trashy. Please report any violations to the Code Enforcement Unit or in person at 1669 Flicker Road Jonesboro, Georgia 30236, by telephone at 678-610-4755, or by email at code.enforcment@co.clayton.ga.us.

Join Our Clayton County Email List!

Just send your email address
by text message:

Text

CLAYTON

to **22828** to get started.



Message and data rates may apply.

www.ClaytonCountyGA.gov

Stay Connected!

Channel 23 is available on Comcast



County-Wide Economic Development Strategic Plan Nears Completion

The work of more than 200 major employers, civic leaders, community members and stake holders in Clayton County is nearing an end as the county-wide Economic Development Strategic Plan prepares for roll-out next month. Led by the Clayton County Chamber of Commerce and the Development Authority of Clayton County, the 12-month process was initiated to provide a comprehensive road map for economic development efforts.

An expert team from the Georgia Tech Enterprise Innovation Institute, led by Jason Chernock, was hired in early 2012 to facilitate the study. Funding partners included the County, Clayton State University, the Clayton County Chamber of Commerce and the Development Authority of Clayton County. A 30-member Steering Committee, made up of representatives from the county economic development office, the cities, Clayton County businesses, and the civic community, was formed to help provide data, research, direction and feedback.

In addition, several public input sessions were held, attracting more than 115 citizens, providing the public an opportunity to help chart the course of economic development efforts moving forward. 70+ stakeholder interviews helped business and community leaders share their thoughts on what Clayton County does best, and what our economic development efforts could be focused on to continue progress.

The ED Plan's mission statement is "Clayton County will advance economic development by:

- Working collaboratively across city and county lines to market, promote and grow business and employment opportunities;
- Building a supportive relationship between our public and private sector;
- Strengthening our educational system and workforce; and
- Embracing our diversity to foster an inclusive economy."

The culmination of this year-long effort is a 78-page document that provides a community profile, outlines business opportunities and strategies, and suggests a five-year timeline for implementation. The study recommends, among other things, a focus on six primary goals, with action steps for each goal:

Goal 1: Improve internal and external image

Goal 2: Develop Better and Broader Relationship between the Private and Public Sector in Clayton County

Goal 3: Create More Opportunities for Clayton County Residents to Find and Retain Employment

Goal 4: Refine Targeted Industry Sectors for Business Recruitment

Goal 5: Recognize the Importance of Entrepreneurship and Small Businesses in Clayton County

Goal 6: Grow the Impact of Public Higher Education Institutions on Clayton County's Economic Development

Study partners are currently meeting to outline the next steps needed to proceed with the plan, and a public roll-out is expected in September. The study will be available for viewing or download on the county's economic development office website www.investclayton.com as well as the Clayton County Chamber of Commerce site www.claytonchamber.org.



Water Authority – Stormwater Services

The main goal of CCWA's stormwater utility is to protect private and public property from flooding damage and to protect the quality of our local waters. To do this, we need reliable stormwater infrastructure in good working condition. Our crews build, fix and maintain the system to keep stormwater flowing where it should.

We also monitor health of local waters, educate our citizens on how to protect it and implement watershed improvement projects. This benefits public health, our environment

and Clayton County as a whole.

Top 3 Constituent Concerns:

1. Is the Stormwater Utility Fee and additional tax? How are the fees collected used?

No, the Stormwater Utility Fee is a fee for a service provided by the Clayton County Water Authority. Fees collected through the Stormwater Utility are dedicated exclusively to fund stormwater management improvements, repairs and initiatives. Specific examples of activities funded through the Stormwater Utility include:

- Construction plan reviews and inspections,
- Floodplain management,
- Illicit discharge/illegal connection inspections,
- and maintenance of stormwater infrastructure within or directly connected to the road right-of-way.

2. Who is responsible for maintaining the detention or retention pond in my neighborhood?

Unless the property or appropriate easements have been deeded to CCWA, maintenance of neighborhood detention ponds is the responsibility of the neighborhood homeowners association (HOA) or the developer. In subdivisions that are currently unfinished due to economic conditions, this responsibility rests with the developer or bank holding the unfinished lots.

3. The stormwater pipes or inlets on my street are clogged and overflowing. Who should I contact?

Call CCWA Customer Service at (770) 960-5200 and a representative will investigate and make a determination about any course of action to remedy the situation. CCWA is only authorized to address clogged or overflowing stormwater facilities within or directly connected to the road right-of-way. We have provided a quick look at CCWA's stormwater services to help explain the areas that CCWA serves.



Clayton County Access Television Casting Call!

CCTV-23 is hosting its first Casting Call for real people to spotlight in a series of upcoming educational and promotional videos to air on Comcast Channel 23. Production will begin in October 2013 in various locations around the county. Some speaking roles will be available however, no experience needed. We want real people! Local business owners are also encouraged to submit photos of the inside and outside of their businesses to use for production locations. No professional photos required.

Criteria: All ages, heights, weights, gender, races and sizes welcome to submit.

Who: Open to Clayton County Residents, Business Owners and Employees Only.

What: Promotional Videos to air on Comcast Channel 23, Social Media, Email Marketing, etc.

When: Submission **deadline is Friday, September 20th**. Production days will be scheduled throughout October.

Tentative Shots: Full families, mother and daughter, father and son, person jogging in the park, exercise activities, businesses serving, students hanging out, sporting events, eating in restaurants and various leisure activities.

Pay: This is a *volunteer opportunity* for promotion and exposure only.

How: Mail or drop off (*during business hours*) a non –returnable photo(s) to:

Clayton County Board of Commissioners

CCTV23- Casting Call

112 Smith Street

Jonesboro, Georgia 30236

No email submissions please!

www.ClaytonTV23.com



FREE Admission & Parking
Live Music & Entertainment
Prizes & Giveaways
Vendors
Kid's Zone (2pm to 6pm)
Pony Rides, Petting Zoo & Photo Booth

Featuring:
The King of Strings
Ken Ford

Also Performing:
Mike Delaney

1pm until 9pm



City of Lovejoy
 A Great Place to Grow & Prosper

Saturday, Sept 14th
@ The Lovejoy Community Center & Mayor's Park
 11622 Hastings Bridge Rd, Lovejoy, GA 30250



FESTIVAL & CONCERT
SATURDAY | AUGUST 31, 2013 | 4PM-MIDNIGHT

CONCERT • COMEDY SHOW • GAMES
PLUS MORE ACTS!
VENDORS • FOOD • CRAFTS
 TICKETS AVAILABLE AT
WWW.THEATLANTAFISHFRY.COM

ALL THIS FOR \$10



THE WORLD'S BIGGEST FISH FRY
 2300 HIGHWAY 138 S.E. JONESBORO, GA 30236



MOVIES UNDER THE STARS

June 8th Flat Shoals Park "Here Comes the Boom"	August 10th International Park "Jack the Giant Slayer"
July 13th Rex Park "Rise of the Guardians"	September 14th Gerald Matthews Soccer Complex "Oz The Great and Powerful"
July 27th Panhandle Park "Escape from Planet Earth"	October 19th at Fall Festival "Hotel Transylvania"

Movie Details: www.claytonparks.com
 770-477-3766



Presented By Mayor Wynn-Dixon and Council Members
Wanda Wallace | Cynthia Stamps-Jones | An'cel Davis



GET FIT!

3RD ANNUAL 5K RIVERDALE HEALTH & FITNESS

BENEFIT FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN RIVERDALE

**SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 21, 2013**

7:30 AM

RIVERDALE WAL-MART
7050 GEORGIA HWY 85, RIVERDALE, GA 30274
www.riverdaleculture.com

COURSE INFORMATION:

USA Track & Field Certified Course
Mostly flat with minor grade hills
2013 Run & See Georgia Grand Prix Series
T-Shirts available for pre-registered runners
Water Stations | Multiple Vendors

STARTS at Wal-Mart
7050 GA Hwy 85 Riverdale, GA 30274

ENDS at Riverdale Town Center
7200 Church Street Riverdale, GA 30274

REGISTRATION:

\$5 Registration Fee for Children
(Up to age 12)
\$15 before September 20, 2013
\$20 Race Day
\$70 Special for 5 Member Teams
Registration begins 6am - 7:15am on Race Day

RAIN DATE: October 12, 2013

Registration forms are available at:

Riverdale City Hall
7200 Church Street Riverdale, GA 30274 | 770-909-8989

Riverdale Centre
7210 Church Street Riverdale, GA 30274 | 770-909-5300

For mail-in registrations, remit all fees and the entry form to:
City of Riverdale / 5K Run
Riverdale Centre
Attn: Kimberly Brown
7210 Church Street, Riverdale, GA 30274

RACE DAY SCHEDULE

6am-8am: 5K Race Registration
7:30am: Pre-Race Warm-Up
8:00am: 5K Race Begins

8am: Vendor Marketplace Opens
8am-9am: Fitness Classes Registration
9am-11am: Fitness Classes@ Riverdale Centre

11:00am:
Cool Down

	TRACK A Amphitheatre	TRACK B Art Studio	TRACK C Dance Studio	TRACK D Atrium	KIDS ZONE Gymnasium
	HIGH IMPACT	MEDIUM IMPACT	LOW IMPACT	ENRICHMENT CLASSES	Presented by: Spyda's World Organization www.Spydasworld.org
9:00 AM	ZUMBA	PILATES	TONED DOWN TONING	HOLISTIC BALANCE	* Anti Bullying
9:30 AM	PILOXING	CORE & ABS	AM AEROBICS	DETOX CLEANSING & JUICING	* Jump Rope
10:00 AM	KICKBOX CARDIO	BUTT LIFT	SALSA	NUTRITION CLASS	* Sac Race
10:30 AM	CARDIO BOOTCAMP	PLYOMETRICS	YOGA	INJURY PREVENTION & ACTIVE RECOVERY	* "Spyda" Says
					* Hooola Hoop
					* Musical Chairs
					* Bounce House
					* Dodge Ball

*for hygienic purposes, please bring own mat to participate in fitness classes

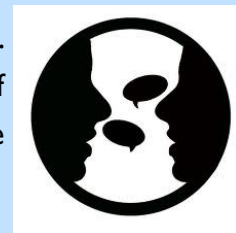
Massage Envy SPA

In between fitness classes, you can enjoy complimentary massages from Massage Envy Spa, a supporting sponsor of Get Fit! Riverdale 5K. Learn about the wonderful benefits of massage therapy and fantastic packages offered at Massage Envy Spa!



"We heard your concerns...."

Neighbors in River's Edge had an unprecedented increase in home break-ins during the summer. Many reached out to Commissioner Rooks for a solution. The response was an increase of Clayton County Police in an organized blitz of the community with a higher than average police presence.



Clayton County Government Contact Numbers

(Here are some of our most requested numbers or services)

Animal Control	770-477-3509	Police/South Precinct	770-347-0260
Better Business Bureau	404-766-0875	Refuse Control (handles certain debris and trash on streets, removes dead animals from County roads)	770-477-3548
Board of Commissioners	770-477-3208	Senior Services	770-603-4050
Code Enforcement	678-610-4755	Sheriff (Non-Emergency)	770-471-1122
Community Development	770-477-3569	So. Regional Medical Center	770-991-8000
DFACS	770-473-2300	Tag Office	770-477-3331
Economic Development	770-477-4450	Tax Assessor (Prop .Values)	770-477-3285
Emergency	911	Tax Commissioner (Tax Bills)	770-477-3311
Health Department	678-610-7199	Transportation & Development (Public Works, Road Department/Pot Holes/Traffic Engineering)	770-477-3674
Parks and Recreation	770-477-3766	Water Authority	770-961-2130
Planning and Zoning	770-477-3577		

Connect with us on



[Click Here To Follow Commissioner Rooks](#)



[Click Here To Follow Commissioner Rooks](#)
@commish_rooks

WE'RE HERE FOR YOU

AS A RESIDENT OF CLAYTON COUNTY DISTRICT 3, YOU MAY BE FACED WITH CONCERNS OR ISSUES THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ADDRESSED.

WE WORK WITH OUR CITIZENS TO RESOLVE CONCERNS INVOLVING COUNTY GOVERNMENT, EXPLAIN COUNTY PROGRAMS, EXPEDITE GOVERNMENT ACTION AND SERVE AS LIAISON BETWEEN OUR DEPARTMENTS AND THE PUBLIC.

HOURS OF OPERATION
8AM-5PM (M-F)



Questions/Concerns/Comments

Please contact :

Steven VanDyke - Constituent Aide

Phone: 770-473-5465

Email:

steven.vandyke@claytoncountyga.gov

Please contact us to be added or removed from our email list.



Board Meetings

Board meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday evening of the month at 7pm .

112 Smith Street

Jonesboro, GA 30236

770) 477-3208

Commissioner Rooks' First Saturday Talk

Emmanuel Baptist Church
230 Hwy. 138 Riverdale GA 30274
Saturday, September 7, 2013
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Comments

Hi Shana,

I look forward to reading the newsletter. It is a great way to keep citizens informed. You are doing a fabulous job. I am so proud of you.

Frances

Dear Mrs. Rooks. I'm so delighted about my neighborhood, thank you so so much for your work in the clean-up, I have been out there almost every day doing a bit of touch up's, I will do my best to get my community to come out, and keep up the maintenance so we can avoid it getting out of control again.

Christine

Hope all is well with you. I just want to thank you for the phenomenal job you've been doing for our community.

DeAngelis